



FedEx Is Coming to Town

I recently helped break ground on a new, \$50 million FedEx distribution center in South Windsor that will employ 80 people when it opens next year. Connecticut has taken an aggressive business stance, and I look forward to helping FedEx take advantage of all the business programs and job-training incentives Connecticut has to offer.



A Focus on Manufacturing

I'm committed to maintaining my focus on state manufacturing as evidenced by my creation of a "Manufacturing Caucus" among members of the Connecticut General Assembly. When we better understand local manufacturers and promote pro-manufacturing policies, businesses, workers and local suppliers all win.



State Grants for Local Businesses

I'm happy to report that several South Windsor and East Hartford firms have taken advantage of the various state loans and grants we passed in October: Oxford Performance Materials is hiring 10 new people, Ti-Trikes will triple its workforce in the next few years, and two East Hartford firms have won job-training grants for new employees.

Tax Incentives Working for Jobs

If you've ever wondered if Connecticut's job-creating tax incentives are working as planned, a new report by the nonprofit Pew Center on the States says Connecticut is one of just 13 states that double-checks the effectiveness of its various tax incentives for job growth. We're on the job putting people to work!



I helped cut the ribbon at Connecticut Southern Railroad's new locomotive and train car maintenance facility at 440 Windsor Street in Hartford. I have a strong commitment to rail freight in Connecticut. Last year I secured state bonding for repairs to the Hartford-East Hartford railroad bridge, which serves a dozen businesses with 800 employees combined east of the river.



Speaking with Ellington Middle School 8th-grader Kayla Condrón and her parents in the underground concourse of the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. Kayla's acrylic painting was displayed as part of my annual "Art at the Capitol" event which celebrates the artistic work of students Grades 1-12 in East Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington and South Windsor.



Your State Senator
Gary LeBeau

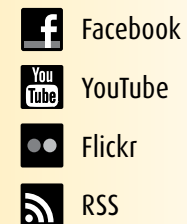
Representing the residents of
East Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington & South Windsor

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Your State Senator Gary LeBeau

Resources

In addition to our work this session, last October we passed a historic, bipartisan Jobs Bill to help small businesses and workers by improving access to capital, job training and education. Below is a list of programs and contact information that could benefit you or someone you know.

- **Job Expansion Tax Credits** for small businesses: www.decd.org
- **Small Business Express Package** to get funding for your small business: www.decd.org, or contact Michelle Lugo at 860-270-8052 or michelle.lugo@ct.gov
- **STEP-Up** (Subsidized Training & Employment Programs) provides worker training subsidies for small businesses and small manufacturers: contact Rina Bakalar at the Office for Workforce Competitiveness, 860-263-6523 or rina.bakalar@ct.gov
- **Connecticut Reemployment Portal** if you have recently lost a job and are looking for work: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP
- **Job & Career Connection** for details on job and training programs: www.ctjobandcareer.org

To learn more, visit: www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs



Breaking ground for the new FedEx distribution facility on Sullivan Avenue in South Windsor (see other side for details).



Education Reforms

Every child deserves a first-class education. That's why we worked with teachers, education advocates and Governor Malloy to pass a historic education reform plan. It provides interventions and innovative new strategies for high-need schools and support for children and families. It invests in communities and ensures high-quality teaching in the classroom. The new law provides:

- Funding for 1,000 new early childhood slots
- 20 new or expanded school-based health centers
- Kindergarten through third-grade reading programs
- Innovative approaches to teaching English Language Learners
- Increased funding for new and existing Family Resource Centers
- A fair and validated evaluation system that will help teachers improve
- Additional funding to school districts across the state

A COMMITMENT TO CREATING JOBS

How do you improve on one of the most successful Connecticut job-creation and economic assistance plans ever devised?

You make it available to even more businesses and employees.

This year Senate Democrats expanded the Jobs Bill that we originally approved last October. That means:

- Extending incentives to thousands of additional small and medium size businesses which will lead to more state manufacturers hiring, buying, training and expanding;
- Additional job-training support for post-9/11 combat veterans through the expansion of our new state STEP-Up Program;
- A "Connecticut Made" marketing campaign that advertises and markets locally made products;
- And a stronger "First Five" business incentive program that gives preference to companies that move jobs from overseas back to Connecticut.

Protecting Consumers, Fighting Price Gouging



Last year we saw some of the worst of what Mother Nature has to offer. Record-breaking snowfall and a powerful tropical storm wreaked havoc, causing downed trees, power outages and roof collapses. We came together as a state to clean up and repair homes after the storms.

In the Senate, we crafted legislation that extends protections from price-gouging to emergency lodging and weather-related services such as snow removal, flood abatement, clean-up and repairs.

The package we passed in the Senate went even further by protecting people against:

- Unnecessary collection of Social Security numbers;
- Deceptive automatic renewal language buried in the fine print of introductory offers; and,
- Telemarketers giving false or misleading identifying information.

Though not all of these bills passed in the House, they are important issues that the General Assembly should remain focused on next year.

Relief at the Pump

This session I helped pass a comprehensive plan that caps the gross receipts tax by applying it to only the first \$3 a gallon when gas is sold on the wholesale market. The plan also strengthens protections against price gouging, cracks down on oil profiteering, and requires that savings from the cap get passed along to consumers.

We can't affect the price of oil on the international exchange—but we can give our Dept. of Consumer Protection and Attorney General tools to ensure large oil wholesalers don't take advantage of rising prices to unfairly gouge consumers.

